

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2003/0090012, *Allen et al* was not filed or published before **August 10, 2001** and no patent has yet been granted on it, therefore it clearly cannot be *prior art* to Applicant's present divisional patent application. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests Examiner Allen to withdraw U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2003/0090012, *Allen et al* as a reference bearing on the patentability of Applicant's current application under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

AMENDMENTS TO PATENT APPLICATION:

Without ceding patentability of the originally claimed subject matter in light of the prior art references cited by the Examiner, the Applicant requests his application be amended as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph at Page 1, line 10 following section heading **CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**, to read as follows:

"This application is a division of U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 09/927,763 filed August 10, 2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,647,771 B2 issued November 18, 2003 entitled 'EXTERNAL PRESSURE DISPLAY FOR VEHICLE TIRES', and a continuation of the original parent U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/228,941 filed August 30, 2000." Accordingly, all benefits, including, but not limited to priority and filing dates that may accrue to this application pursuant 35 U.S.C. §§ 119, 120, & 121 are claimed."

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 29 through page 10, line 15 of the Specification, to read as follows:

Marked-up amendment of specification paragraph at page 9, line 29 thru page 10, line 15:

In the display system shown in Fig. 3, incident light 70 is linearly polarized by first layer 56 and passes into liquid crystal layer [62] 58. The orientation of the linear polarization of the light entering liquid crystal layer [62] 58 is rotated by the helical twist of the ~~[director of]~~ liquid crystal director 64. The helical twist is produced by torque resulting from anchoring director 66A to the inner surface of layer 56 and the forces produced by external magnetic field 76 on the liquid crystal layer 58 [64]. Director 66B at the inner surface of layer 60 is weakly anchored to layer 60 so that most of the span of liquid crystal layer [64] 58 readily aligns with magnetic field 76. Note that the twist of the ~~[director of]~~ liquid crystal director 64 need not be uniform across the span of layer [62] 58. The pixels 68 comprising second polarizing layer 60 selectively attenuate the polarized light passed by liquid crystal layer [62] 58 in accordance with the degree of helical twist and the particular linear polarization orientation of the individual pixels 68. ~~[Light passing through second polarizing layer 60 is reflected by layer 62 back through second polarizing layer 60, where it is further attenuated.]~~ Light transmitted by the second polarizing layer 60 is then reflected back through that polarizing layer by reflecting layer 62 and is further attenuated. Reflected light emanating from second polarization layer 60 is transmitted back through liquid crystal layer 58 and first polarizing layer 56 to an observer. Thus pixel 68 may appear bright or dark based upon the orientation of magnetic field 76.

Clean amended specification paragraph at page 9 line 29 thru page 10, line 15:

In the display system shown in Fig. 3, incident light 70 is linearly polarized by first layer 56 and passes into liquid crystal layer 58. The orientation of the linear polarization of the light entering liquid crystal layer 58 is rotated by the helical twist of the liquid crystal director 64. The helical twist is produced by torque resulting from anchoring director 66A to the inner surface of layer 56 and the forces produced by external magnetic field 76 on the liquid crystal layer 58. Director 66B at the inner surface of layer 60 is weakly anchored to layer 60 so that most of the span of liquid crystal 58 readily aligns with magnetic field

76. Note that the twist of the liquid crystal director 64 need not be uniform across the span of layer 58. The pixels 68 comprising second polarizing layer 60 selectively attenuate the polarized light passed by liquid crystal layer 58 in accordance with the degree of helical twist and the particular linear polarization orientation of the individual pixels 68. Light transmitted by the second polarizing layer 60 is reflected back through polarizing layer 60 and is further attenuated. Reflected light emanating from second polarization layer 60 is transmitted back through liquid crystal layer 58 and first polarizing layer 56 to an observer. Thus pixel 68 may appear bright or dark based upon the orientation of magnetic field 76.